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2           receiving a message from a network, the
3 message having a first header and content;
4           parsing the first header to identify a
5 source content-type and a destination content-type;
6           converting the content to an intermediate
7 content-type;
8           encapsulating the content in a second
9 header, the second header comprising an intermediate
10 content-type and a destination content-type; and
11           transmitting the message across the
12 network to a destination appliance.

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1                   31. The method of claim 30 wherein the first  
2 header comprises a source content-type address string, a  
3 destination content-type address string, an intermediate  
4 appliance routing address string, and a destination  
5 appliance address string.

1           32. The method of claim 31 wherein the second  
2 header comprises an intermediate content-type address  
3 string, a destination content-type address string, and a  
4 destination appliance routing address string.

1                   33. A network adapter connected between an  
2 appliance and a network, comprising:  
3                   a memory device; and  
4                   a first table stored in the memory device  
5 comprising information identifying a destination  
6 appliance connected to the network, and routing  
7 information corresponding to the destination appliance.

1           34. The network adapter of claim 33 further  
2 comprising:

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6 receiving signals to configure the source  
7 resource to transmit the content.

1 39. A system for routing content, comprising:  
2 a processor  
3 a screen connected to the processor;  
4 a memory device connected to the  
5 processor;  
6 a list of source resources displayed on  
7 the screen;  
8 a list of destination appliances  
9 displayed on the screen;  
10 a signal to the processor indicating one  
11 of the source resources displayed on the screen was  
12 selected;  
13 a signal to the processor indicating one  
14 of the destination appliances displayed on the screen  
15 was selected; and  
16 a table stored in the memory device  
17 having an entry for a destination appliance routing  
18 address corresponding to selected destination appliance.

1 40. A user interface, comprising:  
2 a screen;  
3 categories of sources of content  
4 displayed on the screen;  
5 subcategories of sources of content  
6 displayed on the screen corresponding to a selected  
7 category displayed on the screen;  
8 a list of content displayed on the screen  
9 corresponding to a selected subcategory; and

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1      41. A method for discovering appliances on a
2 network, comprising:
3         receiving a first message from an
4 appliance connected to the network;
5         if the message contains information
6 indicating how to route data to the appliance, then
7         placing an entry of the information into
8 a table;
9         if the message is requesting routing
10 information from other appliances, then
11         broadcasting routing information across
12 the network;

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1           42. The method of claim 41 further  
2 comprising:  
3           if the message is requesting routing  
4 information, then  
5           broadcasting a signal containing  
6 information describing how to route content to the  
7 appliance.

1           43. The method of claim 42 wherein the  
2 routing information includes a signal containing  
3 information about a resource on the appliance.

1                   44. The method of claim 42 further  
2 comprising:  
3                   if the message indicates that the  
4 appliance is leaving the network, then

5 removing the entry for the appliance from  
6 the table.

1 45. The method of claim 44 further  
2 comprising:  
3 if the message is a signal indicating  
4 that the appliance is present on the network and the  
5 appliance has no entry in the table, then  
6 broadcasting a request across the network  
7 to the appliance asking the appliance to broadcast  
8 information describing how to route content to the  
9 appliance.

1 46. The method of claim 45 further  
2 comprising:  
3 if a specified time period has passed and  
4 no signal has been received from the appliance  
5 indicating that the appliance is still connected to the  
6 network, then removing the entry for the appliance from  
7 the table.

1 47. A system for discovering appliances on a  
2 network comprising:  
3 a network;  
4 a first appliance connected to the  
5 network; and  
6 a signal received by the first appliance  
7 from a second appliance connected to the network, the  
8 signal including routing information to route content to  
9 the second appliance and including the identity of the  
10 second appliance.

1                   48. The system of claim 47 further  
2 comprising:  
3                   a table stored in a memory on the first  
4 appliance into which the routing information is entered.

1                   49. The system of claim 48 wherein the signal  
2 includes information indicating the resources on the  
3 second appliance capable of receiving or transmitting  
4 content.

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